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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY East GermanyREPORT NO.
 TOPIC Air Activity Observed over Kummersdorf, Koenigsbrueck, Kreuzbruch
and Hillersleben
EVALUATION see belowPLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED

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DATE PREPARED

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REFERENCES 25X1APAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS SOURCE

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1. Almost on every weekday during the period 24 September - 6 October 1953, bombing was practiced by ground attack units over the Kummersdorf training area. The aircraft flying in squadron formation mostly approached the training field from the southeast, broke up to attack formations after crossing the area, and finally attacked the targets and dropped one bomb each, while diving down to 200 meters. Subsequently, the aircraft again assembled for another attack. Sometimes, attacks were made in three waves. The second wave consisting of nine aircraft approached when the first wave had just attacked. Then followed the third wave. Subsequently, the aircraft formed one large formation and headed southwest. On other days, attacks were made by waves of six ground attack aircraft each; the aircraft released bombs and fired from aircraft weapons.

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2. At about 8:30 a.m. on 27 September, a formation of 12 swept-back jet fighters approached Koenigsbrueck troop training grounds from the south and repeatedly attacked unidentified ground targets. The approach runs were made at steep angles. At the same time, gun fire was heard from the training grounds. The attacks were repeated throughout the day and after nightfall.²
3. Shortly after 11 a.m. on 29 September, a single-engine low-wing monoplane was observed flying over Hillersleben toward Gardelegen. On the afternoon of the same day, swept-back jet fighters in formations of fours flew in the direction of Gardelegen or returned from that direction. This was particularly noteworthy as no aircraft have been observed over the area for a long period.³
4. On 1 October, two jet fighters circled for some time over Koenigsbrueck. Source could not determine whether the aircraft cooperated with ground troops.
5. During the morning of 2 October, several formations of single-engine low-wing monoplanes, probably Il-10s, crossed over Kreuzbruch from west to east. After 30 minutes, the aircraft returned in echelon to the right at an altitude of about 1,000 meters. At the same time, air attack exercises were held by several swept-back jet fighters east of Kreuzbruch training field.⁴

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1. Comment. Kummersdorf bomb range is used by the ground attack regiments from Alt Loennowitz and Finsterwalde and possibly also by the ground attack

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regiment from Brandis for bombing and firing practices. Bomb release practices by large formations had already been observed in the fall of 1952.

- 25X1A 2. [] Comment. Since intensive air activity was observed over Grossenhain on 27 September 1953 it appears possible that aircraft of the fighter regiments stationed at Grossenhain airfield participated in the army exercise. See []

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- 25X1A 3. [] Comment. Between 27 and 30 September 1953, the Third Shock Army held exercises in the area south of Stendal. The maneuver possibly involved also aircraft of the fighter division in Herseburg since the fighter regiment from Altenburg transferred to Herseburg on 27 September. See [] - 25X1A

- 25X1A 4. [] Comment. Between 2 and 5 October 1953, an exercise was held north of Berlin by the reinforced 25th Tank Div. Probably aircraft of the ground attack regiments from Brandenburg and of the fighter regiment from Finow participated in the exercise.

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